

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 AEC-11 RSR-01 SCI-06 /123 W

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P R 211235Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8204

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, US

SUBJECT: DAVIGNON PRESS BRIEFING ON US-EUROPEAN
RELATIONS

1. POLITICAL DIRECTOR DAVIGNON BRIEFED INTERNATIONAL PRESS ON JULY
20 ON US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND JULY 23 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING
COPENHAGEN. WITH RESPECT TO THE LATTER, HE SAID THERE ARE TWO
AGENDA ITEMS. FIRST, MINISTERS WOULD BE ASKED TO APPROVE
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SECOND LUXEMBOURG REPORT. DAVIGNON SAID PARAGRAPH 12 OF

THE REPORT DEALING WITH RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AS SUCH ON THE ONE HAND AND POLITICAL COOPERATION AMONG THE NINE ON THE OTHER HAD BEEN AGREED UPON BY THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS. DAVIGNON THEREFORE ANTICIPATED QUICK APPROVAL BY MINISTERS AND ASKED FOREIGN OFFICE PRESS SPOKESMEN TO HAVE TEXT READY FOR RELEASE BY NOON ON JULY 23.

2. DAVIGNON SAID SECOND AGENDA ITEM FOR JULY 23 MEETING IS US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. NOTING THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO RELAUNCH A MATTER THAT WAS DISCUSSED SO UNSUCCESSFULLY IN LUXEMBOURG ON JUNE 4, HE SAID, THAT EUROPEANS MUST GET OUT OF THEIR POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEADLOCK, AND THAT THIS IS IMPORTANT BOTH TO THE NINE AND THE NINE'S IMAGE IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

3. DAVIGNON SAID THAT BELGIUM BELIEVES THE MINISTERS MUST MAKE DECISIONS IN THREE VITAL AREAS. FIRST, EUROPEANS MUST ESTABLISH AN IDENTITY VIS-A-VIS THE U.S. SECOND, EUROPE MUST ORDER THE PRIORITIES ACCORDING TO WHICH PROBLEMS ARE TO BE EXAMINED AND THEY MUST AGREE ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ESSENTIAL PROBLEMS. IN THE END, HE SAID, THIS

EXAMINATION MUST COVER MONETARY, TRADE AND SECURITY ISSUES. IN THIS CONTEXT, DAVIGNON SAID THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR EUROPEANS TO STOP DENYING REALITIES, AND HE MENTIONED AS EXAMPLES, THE MIXON-BREZHNEV SUMMIT, THE US-SOVIET AGREEMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A REDUCTION OF US FORCES IN EUROPE. THIRD, THE NINE MUST AGREE ON A RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO EUROPE. DAVIGNON SAID THAT THE NIXON VISIT WILL BE ONLY A MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND THAT THE NINE MUST RESIST ANY PRESSURE TO SETTLE EUROPE'S PROBLEMS BY THE TIME OF THE VISIT. HE ADDED, THAT, WHILE 1973 MAY BE "YEAR OF EUROPE" FOR AMERICANS, FOR THE EUROPEANS THE TERM APPLIES TO EVERY YEAR. DAVIGNON DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THERE BE A EUROPEAN SPOKESMAN WHEN THE VISIT TAKES PLACE.

4. IN CONCLUSION, DAVIGNON SAID THAT THE COPENHAGEN MEETING WILL BE A DECISIVE ONE THAT CAN EITHER BREAK THE DEADLOCK OR CONFIRM THAT "WE ARE IN THE SOUP." BOOCHEVER

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